

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 11477 291221Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----030185 291221Z /10

P R 291139Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6134
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY SANA

S E C R E T TEHRAN 11477

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: MOPS YS SA IR
SUBJ: SAUDI-PDRY TENSIONS

REF: JIDDA 8794, STATE 309091

1. POLCOUNS DISCUSSED THIS SUBJECT CAREFULLY (PROTECTING SOURCES) WITH MFA DEPT HEAD DAVOUDI DEC 30. DAVOUDI SAID IRANIANS HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE POSSIBILITY OF A COUP IN PDRY IS ANY MORE LIKELY TODAY THAN IT WAS ONE, TWO, OR THREE MONTHS AGO. SAUDIS HAVE NOT APPROACHED IRANIANS AT ALL ON THIS QUESTION OR ANYTHING ELSE RELATED TO PDRY RECENTLY. IRANIAN AMB IN JIDDA HAS BEEN AWAY ON LEAVE PAST TWO WEEKS, AND SAUDI AMB HERE, WHILE ABLE AND COOPERATIVE, IS NOT GENERALLY VERY WELL INFORMED

2. DAVOUDI NOTED SAUDI RELATIONSHIP WITH PDRY HAD CHANGED AFTER PDRY ACCUSED SAUDIS OF COMPLICITY IN AL-HAMDI ASSASSINATION. SAUDIS HAVE CUT OFF THEIR AID AND KUWAITIS SAY THEY WILL STOP TOO ONCE PRESENT PROJECT THEY ARE WORKING ON IS COMPLETED.

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3. DAVOUDI OPINED THAT, HAD QUESTION OF COUP BEEN RAISED ABOUT NORTH YEMEN, HE WOULD HAVE ANSWERED DIFFERENTLY. THAT WOULD SEEM MORE LIKELY POSSIBILITY--THOUGH HE HAD NO SPECIFIC INFORMATION.

4. DAVOUDI NOTED THAT COOPERATION BETWEEN IRANIAN AND US EMBASSIES IN JIDDA IS "CLOSER THAN BETWEEN ANY OTHER TWO

EMBASSIES" AND SUGGESTED CONSULTATIONS ON SUCH QUESTIONS THERE.

5. COMMENT: FRANKLY WE WOULD BE VERY SURPRISED TO SEE ANY OVERT IRANIAN ASSISTANCE (THROUGH AIR COVER OR OTHERWISE) IN ANY INTERVENTION IN PDRY INTERNAL AFFAIRS, DESPITE FACT IRANIAN PILOT (A CAPTAIN) STILL REMAINS CAPTIVE THERE.
SULLIVAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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